IN THE CLAIMS

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended)   ~~A voice communication system according to claim 22 1,~~ <u>A communication system comprising:</u>

<u>   a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;</u>

<u>   a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes,</u> —— ————the computer network enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

<u>   streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;</u>

<u>   a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections.; and</u>————————— ~~the system also comprising:~~

a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuated by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network,

wherein the system also provides Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network.

5. (Currently Amended)   ~~A voice communication system according to claim 22 1 and also comprising:~~

<u>A communication system comprising:</u>

<u>   a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;</u>

<u>   a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;</u>

<u>   streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;</u>

<u>   a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections; and</u>

a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuated by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network,

wherein the system also provides Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected destinations via said computer network.

6. (Currently Amended)   ~~A voice communication system according to claim 221,~~ <u>A communication system comprising:</u>

<u>   a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;</u>

<u>   a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes, ——</u>

<u>————the computer network enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;</u>

<u>   streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;</u>

<u>   a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections; and</u>

~~   the system also comprising:~~

a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuated by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network, each voice response computer also being actuated by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network,

the system also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network.

7. (Currently Amended)   ~~A communication system according to claim 221~~<u>A communication system comprising:</u>

<u>   a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections,</u>

~~   ~~<u>wherein said telephone network comprises a cellular telephone network;</u>

<u>   a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;</u>

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections; and

~~the system also comprising~~

a multiplicity of computers, each computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuated by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating messages received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a telephone compatible Internet communication language over said computer network, at least one of senders or recipients of said messages being user-selected destinations.

8. (Currently Amended)   ~~A communication system according to claim 221~~A communication system comprising:

a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections,

~~wherein~~ said telephone network comprises a cellular telephone network;

a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections; and ~~the system also comprising~~

a multiplicity of computers, each computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuated by an input received from one

of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving messages communicated via a telephone compatible Internet communication language over said computer network and providing a telephone compatible Internet communication language output to a telephone via said telephone network, at least one of senders or recipients of said messages being user-selected destinations.

9. (Currently Amended)   A ~~communication system according to claim 22~~<u>1A</u> <u>communication system comprising:</u>

<u>a telephone network including a multiplicity of</u> <u>telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections,</u>

~~wherein~~ <u>said telephone network comprises a cellular</u> <u>telephone network;</u>

<u>a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and</u> <u>enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;</u>

<u>streaming audio link communication apparatus</u> <u>communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-</u> <u>streaming Internet protocol communication; and</u>

<u>a streaming audio player operative to play said</u> <u>streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said</u> <u>telephone network interconnections; and</u>

~~the system also comprising~~

a multiplicity of computers, each computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuated by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating messages received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a telephone compatible Internet communication language over said computer network, each computer also being actuated by an input received from one of said multiplicity of computers via said computer network for receiving messages communicated over said computer network and providing a telephone compatible Internet

communication language output to a telephone via said telephone network, at least one of senders or recipients of said messages being user-selected destinations.
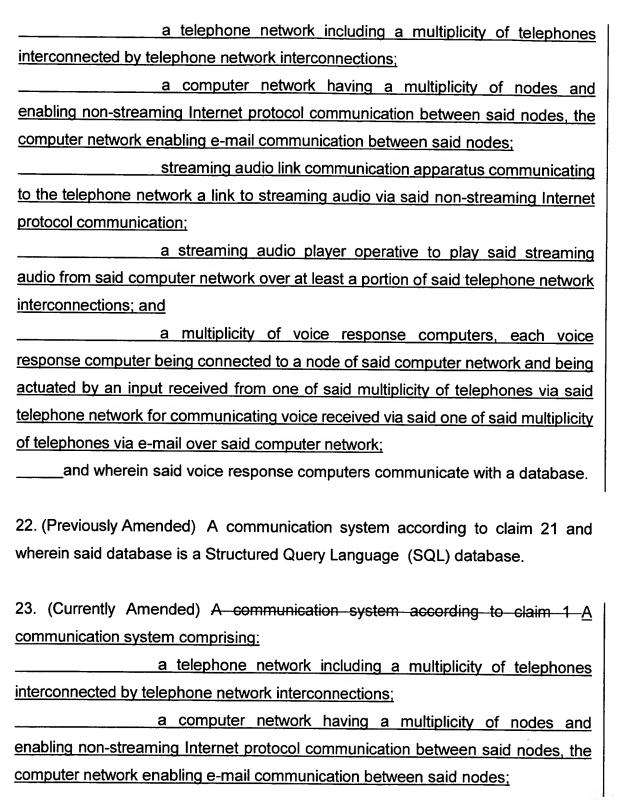

10-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 15 A communication system comprising:

a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes, the computer network enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication; and

a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

at least one database connected to said computer network and storing e-mail communications between said nodes; and

at least one voice response computer connected at a node of said computer network, and said at least one voice response computer being capable of accessing said at least one database;

and wherein at least one proxy is interposed between said at least one voice response computer and said at least one database.

17 – 20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 1 A communication system comprising:

a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes, the computer network enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections; and

a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuated by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;

and wherein said voice response computers communicate with a database.

22. (Previously Amended) A communication system according to claim 21 and wherein said database is a Structured Query Language (SQL) database.

23. (Currently Amended) ~~A communication system according to claim 1~~ A communication system comprising:

a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes, the computer network enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections; and

a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuated by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;

and wherein said multiplicity of voice response computers is actuated by the sender choosing an e-mail address of a recipient from a pre-defined directory.

24. (Currently Amended)   A communication system according to claim 1 A communication system comprising:

a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes, the computer network enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections; and

a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network and being actuated by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said

telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;

_____and wherein said multiplicity of voice response computers are actuated by the sender entering an e-mail address of a recipient via Dual Tone Multi Frequency (DTMF) codes.

25. (Original) A communication system according to Claim 24 and wherein said multiplicity of voice response computers are operative to store in a directory, e-mail addresses entered by a sender.

26. (Original) A communication system according to claim 25 and wherein said multiplicity of voice response computers is actuated by the sender entering an e-mail address of a recipient via speech recognition by one of said multiplicity of voice response computers.

27-34. (Cancelled)

35. (Previously Cancelled)

36. (Previously Amended) A communication system according to claim 4 and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

37. (Previously Amended) A communication system according to claim 4 and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

38. (Previously Amended) A communication system according to claim 4 and wherein said voice response computers are operative to convert Dual Tone Multi Frequency (DTMF) to an Instant Messaging communication protocol.

39 - 43. (Previously Cancelled)

44. (Previously Amended) A communication system according to claim 5 and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

45. (Previously Amended) A communication system according to claim 5 and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

46. (Previously Amended) A communication system according to claim 5 and wherein said voice response computers are capable of sensing the presence of a link to an audio file.

47. (Original) A communication system according to claim 46 and wherein said voice response computers are capable of accessing said audio file via said link for playing said audio file to a recipient.

48. (Previously Cancelled)

49. (Previously Amended)   A communication system according to claim 6 and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

50. (Previously Amended)   A communication system according to claim 6 and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

51-53. (Cancelled)

54. (Currently Amended) ~~A communication system according to claim 53~~
A communication system comprising:

    a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

    a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

    streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

    a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

    a recorder recording a sender's voice;

    a web server storing the sender's voice, said web server storing the sender's voice together with the meta-information associated therewith in a single storage unit; and

_____ a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of the sender's voice from said web server;

_____ and wherein the recorder spools the sender's voice to a local storage facility.

55. (Cancelled)

56. (Currently Amended)   A communication system according to claim 55 A communication system comprising:

_____ a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____ a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____ streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____ a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____ a recorder recording a sender's voice;

_____ a web server storing the sender's voice, said web server storing the sender's voice together with the meta-information associated therewith in a single storage unit;

_____ a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of the sender's voice from said web server; and

_____ a transmitter transmitting a sender's voice;

_____ and wherein said transmitter transmits said sender's voice via Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) PUT to said web server.

57. (Currently Amended)~~A communication system according to claim 55~~ <u>A communication system comprising</u>:

<u>a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections</u>;

<u>a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes</u>;

<u>streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication</u>;

<u>a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections</u>;

<u>a recorder recording a sender's voice</u>;

<u>a web server storing the sender's voice, said web server storing the sender's voice together with the meta-information associated therewith in a single storage unit</u>;

<u>a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of the sender's voice from said web server; and</u>

<u>a transmitter transmitting a sender's voice</u>;

<u>and wherein the transmitter spools the sender's voice to a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) server.</u>

58. (Currently Amended) ~~A communication system according to claim 55~~<u>A communication system comprising</u>:

<u>a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections</u>;

<u>a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes</u>;

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

a recorder recording a sender's voice;

a web server storing the sender's voice, said web server storing the sender's voice together with the meta-information associated therewith in a single storage unit;

a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of the sender's voice from said web server; and

a transmitter transmitting a sender's voice;

and wherein the transmitter encodes a sender's voice in a compressed format.

59-61. (Cancelled)

62. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 10 A communication system comprising:

a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

a recorder recording a sender's voice;

a web server storing the sender's voice, said web server storing the sender's voice together with the meta-information associated therewith in a single storage unit; and

a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of the sender's voice from said web server;

and wherein said web server is operative to encode multiple senders' voices simultaneously.

63. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 10 A communication system comprising:

a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

a recorder recording a sender's voice;

a web server storing the sender's voice, said web server storing the sender's voice together with the meta-information associated therewith in a single storage unit; and

_____a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of the sender's voice from said web server;

_____and wherein said web server includes functionality which associates user preferences with recorded user voice elements.

64-65. (Cancelled)

66. (Currently Amended) A communication system according to claim 10 A communication system comprising:

_____a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____a recorder recording a sender's voice;

_____a web server storing the sender's voice, said web server storing the sender's voice together with the meta-information associated therewith in a single storage unit; and

_____a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of the sender's voice from said web server;

_____and wherein said link connects to at least an advertising medium.

67. (Original) A communication system according to claim 66 and wherein said link also connects to an audio file.

68. (Currently Amended) A~~communication~~ ~~system~~ ~~according~~ ~~to~~ ~~claim~~ ~~14~~ <u>A</u> <u>communication system comprising:</u>

<u>a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones</u> <u>interconnected by telephone network interconnections;</u>

<u>a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and</u> <u>enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes,</u> <u>wherein the computer network enables e-mail communication between said nodes;</u>

<u>streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating</u> <u>to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet</u> <u>protocol communication;</u>

<u>a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming</u> <u>audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network</u> <u>interconnections; and</u>

<u>at least one database connected to said computer network and storing e-</u> <u>mail communications between said nodes;</u>

<u>wherein each of said multiplicity of databases contains a plurality of mail</u> tables, wherein each mail table has assigned thereto a limited number of users.

69. (Currently Amended) A~~communication~~ ~~system~~ ~~according~~ ~~to~~ ~~claim~~ ~~14~~ <u>A</u> <u>communication system comprising:</u>

<u>a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones</u> <u>interconnected by telephone network interconnections;</u>

<u>a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and</u> <u>enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes,</u> <u>wherein the computer network enables e-mail communication between said nodes;</u>

<u>streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;</u>

<u>a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections; and</u>

<u>at least one database connected to said computer network and storing e-mail communications between said nodes;</u>

<u>and wherein at least one of said multiplicity of databases includes a list of destination addresses.</u>

70. (Original) A communication system according to claim 69 and wherein said list comprises a multiplicity of lists of destination addresses.

71. (Original) A communication system according to claim 70 and wherein at least one of said multiplicity of databases includes a meta-list for indexing and multiplicity of lists.

72-82 . (Previously Cancelled)

83. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 221 <u>A communication system comprising:</u>

<u>a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;</u>

<u>a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;</u>

<u>streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;</u>

_____ a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;and also comprising:

_____   a text-to-speech converter converting an e-mail message from text to speech;

_____   a receiver receiving an input request for a selected e-mail message;

_____   an audio player reading the selected e-mail message;

_____   an audio recorder recording a reply to the selected e-mail message, producing an audio file; and

_____   a transmitter sending the audio file as an attachment to a reply e-mail.

84. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 83 wherein the audio file is a Wave file.

85. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 84 wherein the audio file is a compressed Wave file.

86. (Original) The system of claim 83 and also including a downloader downloading an

e-mail message from an e-mail server.

87. (Original) The system of claim 83 and also including a mail forwarder forwarding the selected e-mail message to a pager.

88. (Original) The system of claim 83 and also including a mail forwarder forwarding the selected e-mail message to a fax machine.

89. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 221 A communication system comprising:

a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;and also comprising:

a text-to-speech converter converting an e-mail message from text to speech:

a receiver receiving an input request for a selected e-mail message;

an audio player reading the selected e-mail message;

an audio recorder recording a reply to the selected e-mail message, producing and audio file;

a computer storing the audio file; and

a transmitter sending a reply e-mail containing a link to the audio file.

90. (Original) The system of claim 89 wherein the audio file is a RealAudio file.

91. (Original) The system of claim 89 and also including a downloader downloading and e-mail message from an e-mail server.

92. (Original) The system of claim 89 and also including a mail forwarder forwarding the selected e-mail message to a pager.

93. (Original) The system of claim 89 and also including a mail forwarder forwarding the selected e-mail message to a fax machine.

94. (Currently Amended) ~~A method according to claim 216~~ <u>A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:</u>

<u>   providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;</u>

<u>   providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;</u>

<u>   enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;</u>

<u>   communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;</u>

<u>   playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;</u>

~~and also comprising the steps of:~~

playing by a local computer an incoming audio file containing a voice message, the incoming audio file residing on a remote computer; and

saving the incoming audio file as a local audio file on the local computer after said playing steps.

95. (Original) The method of claim 94 wherein the incoming audio file is a streaming audio file.

96.(Original) The method of claim 95 wherein the streaming audio .file if a RealAudio file.

97. (Previously Amended)The method of claim 94 wherein the local audio file is a Wave file.

98. (Previously Amended)   The method of claim 94 wherein the local audio file is a compressed Wave file.

99. (Original) The method of claim 94 wherein the local audio file is a RealAudio file.

100 –108. (Previously Cancelled)

109. (Currently Amended) ~~A system according to claim 221~~ <u>A communication system comprising:</u>

<u>   a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;</u>

<u>   a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;</u>

<u>   streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;</u>

<u>   a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;</u>~~and also comprising:~~

an audio player within a local computer playing an incoming audio file containing a voice message, the incoming audio file residing on a remote computer; and

a data processor saving the incoming audio file as a local audio file on the local computer, after said audio player plays the incoming audio file.

110. (Original) The system of claim 109 wherein the incoming audio file is a streaming audio file.

111. (Original) The system of claim 110 wherein the streaming audio file is a RealAudio file.

112. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 109 wherein the local audio file is a Wave file.

113. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 109 wherein the local audio file is a compressed Wave file.

114. (Original) The system of claim 109 wherein the local audio file is a RealAudio file.

115. (Currently Amended) A~~ system according to claim 221~~ A communication system comprising:

a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;~~and also comprising:~~

a text-to-speech converter converting an e-mail message from text to speech;

a receiver receiving an input request for a selected e-mail message;

————————   a first audio player reading the selected e-mail message;

————————   an audio recorder recording a reply to the selected e-mail message, producing an audio file;

———————   a transmitter sending the audio file as an attachment to a reply |
e-mail;
and

———————   a second audio player playing the audio file. |

116. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 115 wherein the audio file is a Wave file.

117. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 115 wherein the audio file is a compressed Wave file.

118. (Original) The system of Claim 117 and also comprising a decompressor decompressing the audio file.

119. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 221 A communication system comprising:

a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;and also comprising:

a text-to-speech converter converting an e-mail message from text to speech;

a receiver receiving an input request for a selected e-mail message;

an audio recorder recording a reply to the selected e-mail message, producing an audio file;

a computer storing the audio file;

a transmitter sending a reply e-mail containing a link to the audio file;

a second audio player playing the audio file; and

a data processor saving the audio file.

120. (Original) The system of claim 119 wherein the audio file is a RealAudio file.

121. (Original) The system of 119 and wherein said data processor converts the audio file to a designated file format.

122. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 121 wherein the designated file format is a Wave format.

123. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 121 wherein the designated file format is a compressed Wave format.

124-128. (Previously Cancelled)

129. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 221 A communication system comprising:

a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;~~and also comprising;~~

a text-to-speech converter converting an e-mail message from text to speech;

a receiver receiving an input request for a selected e-mail message;

an audio player reading the selected e-mail message;

an audio recorder recording a reply to the selected e-mail message and producing an audio file containing the recorded reply; and

a transmitter sending the audio file to a computer and sending a reply e-mail containing a link to the audio file.

130. (Original) The system of claim 129 wherein the audio file is a RealAudio file.

131. (Original) The system of claim 129 and also including a downloader downloading an e-mail message from an e-mail server.

132. (Original) The system of claim 129 and also including a mail forwarder forwarding the selected e-mail message to a pager.

133. (Original) The system of claim 129 and also including a mail forwarder forwarding the selected e-mail messages to a fax machine..

134-138. (Previously Cancelled)

139. (Currently Amended) ~~A system according to claim 221 and also comprising:~~A communication system comprising:

_____a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes and enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;_

_____streaming audio link communication apparatus communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;_

_____a streaming audio player operative to play said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;_

a text-to-speech converter converting an e-mail message from text to speech;

a receiver receiving an input request for a selected e-mail message;

a first audio player reading the selected e-mail message;

an audio recorder recording a reply to the selected e-mail message, and producing an audio file containing the recorded reply;

a transmitter sending the audio file to a computer and sending a reply e-mail containing a link to the audio file;

a second audio player playing the audio file; and

a data processor saving the audio file.

140. (Original) The system of claim 139 wherein the audio file is a RealAudio file.

141. (Original) The system of claim 139 and wherein said data processor converts the audio file to a designated file format.

142. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 141 wherein the designated file format is a Wave format.

143. (Previously Amended) The system of claim 141 wherein the designated file format is a compressed Wave format.

144. (Cancelled)

145. (Currently Amended)   A ~~method of voice communication according to claim 144~~ <u>A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:</u>   <u>providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;</u>

        <u>providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;</u>

        <u>enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;</u>

        <u>communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;</u>

        <u>playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;</u>

        <u>enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;</u>

        <u>providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and</u>

        <u>making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;</u>

        <u>and also comprising the step of providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network.</u>

146. (Currently Amended)   ~~A method of voice communication according to claim 144~~ <u>A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:</u> <u>providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;</u>

        <u>providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;</u>

_____ enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____ communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____ playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____ enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____ providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and

_____ making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;

_____ and also comprising the step of providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

147. (Currently Amended) ———— A method of voice communication according to claim 144 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of: providing   a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____ providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____ enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____ communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____ playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____ enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and

_____making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;

_____and also comprising the step of providing Instant Message protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

148. (Currently Amended) ———— A method of voice communication according to claim 144 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of: providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and

_____making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;

_____and wherein said voice response computers are operative to convert Dual Tone Multi Frequency (DTMF) to an Instant Messaging protocol communication protocol.

149. (Cancelled)

150. (Currently Amended) A~~method of voice communication according to claim 149~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of: providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and

_____making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;

_____wherein said voice response computers communicate with a database;

_____and wherein said database is a Structured Query Language (SQL) database.

151. (Currently Amended) A~~method of voice communication according to claim 144~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of: providing a

telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____ providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____ enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____ communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____ playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____ enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____ providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and

_____ making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;

_____and comprising the step of actuating at least one of said voice response computers by choosing an e-mail address of a recipient from a pre-defined directory.

152. (Currently Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 144 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of: providing   a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____ providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____ enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____ communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and

_____making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;

_____and comprising the step of actuating at least one of said voice response computers by the entering an e-mail address of a recipient via DTMF codes.

153. (Original) A method of voice communication according to claim 152 and comprising the step of operating at least one of said voice response computers to store in a directory, e-mail addresses entered by a sender.

154. (Currently Amended) A~~ method of voice communication according to claim 144~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of: providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and

_____making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;

_____and comprising the step of actuating at least one of said voice response computers by entering an e-mail address of a recipient via speech recognition by the at least one of said multiplicity of voice response computers.

155. (Cancelled)

156. (Currently Amended)   ~~A method of voice communication according to claim 155~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and

_____making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via e-mail over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network.;

_____and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected destinations via said computer network.

157. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of voice communication according to claim 155~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and

_____making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via e-mail over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network.;

_____and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

158. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of voice communication according to claim 155~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and

making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via e-mail over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network.;

and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

159-161. (Cancelled)

162. (Currently Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 161 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network;

_____making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;

_____making each voice response computer also actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via e-mail over said computer network; and

_____providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network;

_____and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network.

163. (Currently Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 161 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

<u>playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;</u>

<u>enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;</u>

<u>providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network;</u>

<u>making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;</u>

<u>making each voice response computer also actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via e-mail over said computer network; and</u>

<u>providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network;</u>

and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

164. (Currently Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 161 <u>A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:</u>

<u>providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;</u>

<u>providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;</u>

<u>enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;</u>

<u>communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;</u>

<u>playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;</u>

<u>enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;</u>

_____providing a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network;

_____making each voice response computer actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via e-mail over said computer network;

_____making each voice response computer also actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via e-mail over said computer network; and

_____providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network;

_____and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

165.   (Cancelled)

166. (Currently Amended)   A method of voice communication according to claim 165 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____ connecting a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer to a node of said computer network; and

_____ making actuable at least one of said voice response computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network;

_____ and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network.

167. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of voice communication according to claim 165~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____ providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____ providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____ enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____ communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____ playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____ enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____ connecting a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer to a node of said computer network; and

_____ making actuable at least one of said voice response computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network;

_____ and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network

indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

168. (Currently Amended) ——— A method of voice communication according to claim 165 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____ providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____ providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____ enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____ communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____ playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____ enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____ connecting a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer to a node of said computer network; and

_____ making actuable at least one of said voice response computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network;

_____and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

169. (Currently Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 165 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____ providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____connecting a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer to a node of said computer network; and

_____making actuable at least one of said voice response computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network;

_____and comprising the step of operating said voice response computers to convert Dual Tone Multi Frequency (DTMF) to an Instant Messaging protocol communication protocol.

170. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of voice communication according to claim 165~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____ connecting a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer to a node of said computer network; and

_____ making actuable at least one of said voice response computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network;

_____ and comprising the step of actuating multiplicity of voice response computers is by choosing an e-mail address of a recipient from a pre-defined directory.

171. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of voice communication according to claim 165~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____ providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____ providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____ enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____ communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____ playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____ enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____ connecting a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer to a node of said computer network; and

_____ making actuable at least one of said voice response computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network;

_____and comprising the step of actuating said multiplicity of voice response computers by entering an e-mail address of a recipient via Dual Tone Multi Frequency (DTMF) codes.

172. (Original) A method of voice communication according to claim 171 and comprising the step of operating said multiplicity of voice response computers to store in a directory e-mail addresses entered by a sender.

173. (Currently Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 165 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____connecting a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer to a node of said computer network; and

_____making actuable at least one of said voice response computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network;

_____and comprising the step of actuating said multiplicity of voice response computers by the entering an e-mail address of a recipient via speech recognition by one of said multiplicity of voice response computers.

174. (Currently Amended) ~~A method for voice communication according to claim 216~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____ providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____ providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____ enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____ communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____ playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

~~and also comprising the steps of:~~

_____ connecting a multiplicity of voice response computers, each voice response computer being connected to a node of said computer network; and

_____ actuating an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via a non-streaming internet protocol over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network,

_____ the method also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

175. (Previously Cancelled)

176. (Previously Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 174 and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent from user-selected destinations via said computer

network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

177. (Previously Cancelled)

178. (Previously Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 174 and comprising the step of using at least one of said voice response computers to sense the presence of a link to an audio file.

179. (Original) A method of voice communication according to claim 178 and comprising the step of being capable of accessing said audio file via said link for playing said audio file to a recipient.

180. (Cancelled)

181. (Currently Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 180 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:
        providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;
        providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;
        enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;
        communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;
        playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections.
        enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;
        connecting at least one voice response computer of a multiplicity of voice response computers to a node of said computer network; and

_____actuating a voice response computer by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non streaming Internet protocol over said computer network, each voice response computer also being actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network;

_____and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network.

182. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of voice communication according to claim 180~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections.

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____connecting at least one voice response computer of a multiplicity of voice response computers to a node of said computer network; and

_____actuating a voice response computer by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating voice received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a non streaming Internet protocol over said computer network, each voice response computer also being actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response

<u>computers via said computer network for receiving voice communicated via a non-streaming Internet protocol over said computer network and providing a voice output to a telephone via said telephone network;</u>

_____and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user is communicating using a user's telephone via said telephone network with a user's voice response computer.

183. (Previously Amended)   A method of voice communication according to claim 181 and also providing Instant Messaging protocol functionality whereby communications are sent to user-selected destinations via said computer network indicating that a user has communicated voice via said telephone network and said computer network using a user's telephone and a user's voice response computer.

184. (Currently Amended) ~~A method for voice communication according to claim 216~~ <u>A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:</u>

_____<u>providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections, wherein said telephone network comprises a cellular telephone network;</u>

_____<u>providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;</u>

_____<u>enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;</u>

_____<u>communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;</u>

_____<u>playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;</u>

_____~~the method comprising:~~

_____   connecting at least one computer of multiplicity of computers, to a node of said computer network; and
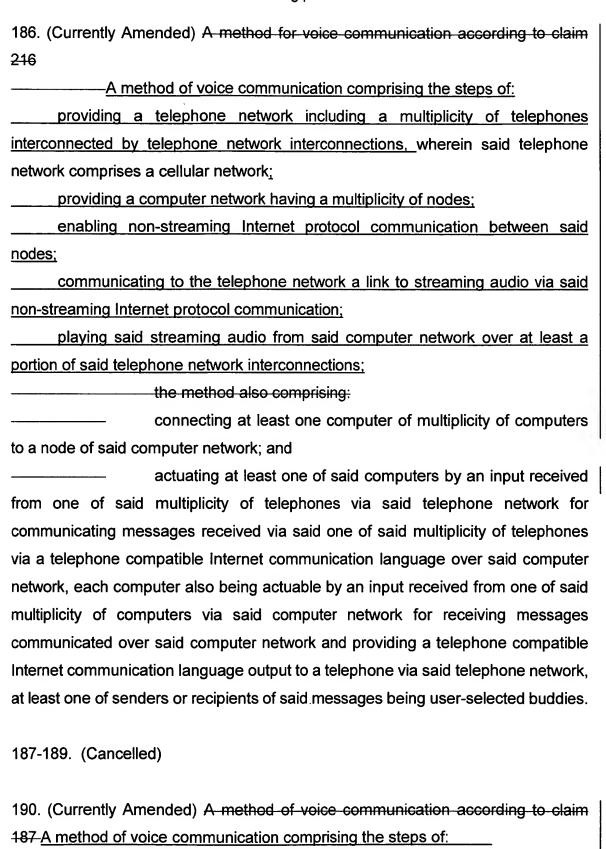
———— actuating at least one of said computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating messages received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a telephone compatible Internet communication language over said computer network, at least one of senders or recipients of said messages being user-selected buddies.

185. (Currently Amended) ~~A method for voice communication according to claim 216~~

————<u>A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:</u>

<u>providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections, wherein said telephone network comprises a cellular telephone network;</u>

<u>providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;</u>

<u>enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;</u>

<u>communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;</u>

<u>playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;</u>

———————— ~~the method also comprising:~~

———————— connecting at least one computer of multiplicity of computers, to a node of said computer network; and

———————— actuating at least one of said computers by and input received from one of said multiplicity of voice response computers via said computer network for receiving messages communicated via a telephone compatible Internet communication language over said computer network and providing to telephone compatible Internet communication language output to a telephone via a said telephone network, at least one of senders or recipients of said messages being user-selected buddies.

186. (Currently Amended) A method for voice communication according to claim 216

―――――――A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____ providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections, wherein said telephone network comprises a cellular network;

_____ providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____ enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____ communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____ playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

―――――――――――the method also comprising:

――――――― connecting at least one computer of multiplicity of computers to a node of said computer network; and

――――――― actuating at least one of said computers by an input received from one of said multiplicity of telephones via said telephone network for communicating messages received via said one of said multiplicity of telephones via a telephone compatible Internet communication language over said computer network, each computer also being actuable by an input received from one of said multiplicity of computers via said computer network for receiving messages communicated over said computer network and providing a telephone compatible Internet communication language output to a telephone via said telephone network, at least one of senders or recipients of said.messages being user-selected buddies.

187-189. (Cancelled)

190. (Currently Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 187 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections.

providing a recorder recording a senders voice;

providing a web-server storing the senders voice; and

providing a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of sender's voice from said web server;

and comprising the step of storing the sender's voice together with the meta-information associated therewith in a single storage unit of said web server.

191. (Original) A method of voice communication according to claim 190 and comprising the step of spooling the sender's voice to a local storage facility in said recorder.

192. (Original) A method of voice communication according to claim 190 and also comprising the step of transmitting a sender's voice from a transmitter.

193. (Previously Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 192 and comprising the step of transmitting said sender's voice via Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) PUT to said web server of said transmitter.

194. (Previously Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 192 and comprising the step of spooling the sender's voice to a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) server of said transmitter.

195. (Original) A method of voice communication according to claim 192 and comprising the step of encoding a sender's voice in a compressed format in said transmitter.

196. (Previously Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 192 and comprising the step of including a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) server in said web server.

197. (Previously Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 192 and comprising the step of including a Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) server enabled to handle PUT commands in said web server.

198. (Cancelled)

199. (Currently Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 187 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

    providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

    providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

    enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

    communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

    playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections.

    providing a recorder recording a senders voice;

_____ providing a web-server storing the senders voice; and

_____ providing a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of sender's voice from said web server;

_____and comprising the step of operating said web server to encode multiple sender's voices simultaneously.

200. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of voice communication according to claim 187~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of: _____

_____ providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____ providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____ enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____ communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____ playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections.

_____ providing a recorder recording a senders voice;

_____ providing a web-server storing the senders voice; and

_____ providing a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of sender's voice from said web server;

_____and comprising the step of including a functionality which associates user preferences with recorded user voice elements in said web server.

201. (Cancelled)

202. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of voice communication according to claim 187~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of: _____

_____providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections.

_____providing a recorder recording a senders voice;

_____providing a web-server storing the senders voice; and

_____providing a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of sender's voice from said web server;

_____and comprising the step of including the following functionality:

formatting the notification for a plurality of participants as a function of at least one parameter of each recipient.

203. (Currently Amended) A method of voice communication according to claim 187 A method of voice communication comprising the steps of:

_____providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections.

_____providing a recorder recording a senders voice;

_____providing a web-server storing the senders voice; and

_____providing a notifier sending a notification to at least one recipient, said notification containing a link enabling retrieval of sender's voice from said web server;

_____and comprising the step of connecting said link to at least an advertising medium.

204. (Original) A method of voice communication according to claim 203 and also comprising the step of connecting said link also connects to an audio file.

205-209.   (Cancelled)

210. (Currently Amended) A~~ method of voice communication according to claim 209~~ A method of voice communication comprising the steps of: _____

_____providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____connecting at least one database to said computer network; and

_____storing e-mail communications between said nodes;

_____connecting at least one voice response computer at a node of said computer network, said at least one voice response computer being capable of accessing said at least one database;

_____and comprising the step of interposing at least one proxy interposed between said at least one voice response computer and said at least one database.

211. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of voice communication according to claim 208~~A method of voice communication comprising the steps of: _____

_____providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____connecting at least one database to said computer network; and

_____storing e-mail communications between said nodes;

_____and wherein each of said multiplicity of databases contains a plurality of mail tables, wherein each mail table has assigned thereto a limited number of users.

212. (Currently Amended) ~~A method of voice communication according to claim 208~~A method of voice communication comprising the steps of: _____

_____providing a telephone network including a multiplicity of telephones interconnected by telephone network interconnections;

_____providing a computer network having a multiplicity of nodes;

_____enabling non-streaming Internet protocol communication between said nodes;

_____communicating to the telephone network a link to streaming audio via said non-streaming Internet protocol communication;

_____playing said streaming audio from said computer network over at least a portion of said telephone network interconnections;

_____enabling e-mail communication between said nodes;

_____connecting at least one database to said computer network; and

_____storing e-mail communications between said nodes;

_____and wherein at least one of said multiplicity of databases includes a list of destination addresses.

213. (Original) A method of voice communication according to claim 212 and wherein said list comprises a multiplicity of lists of destination addresses.

214. (Original) A method of voice communication according to claim 213 and wherein at least one of said multiplicity of databases includes a meta-list for indexing said multiplicity of lists.

215. (Original) A method of voice communication according to claim 178 and wherein said voice response computers are capable of sensing the presence of a link to an audio file in e-mail received thereat.

216-221. (Cancelled)